

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-11 and 13-24 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 13 is amended. No new matter is added. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and the drawings. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amended claims is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 since the amendments: (1) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (2) do not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution without incorporating additional subject matter; (3) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; and/or (4) place the application in better form for appeal, if necessary. Entry is thus requested.

The Office Action objected to claim 13 because of informalities. Claim 13 has been amended to address the Examiner's comments. Accordingly, the objection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-11 and 13-24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over admitted state of the art in view of Ferchau et al. (hereinafter "Ferchau"), U.S. Patent No. 4,682,833. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that Figures 1-2 of the present application and the corresponding disclosure disclose all of the claimed features except for the claimed location

correction means. The Office Action then asserts that Ferchau discloses such features, and concludes that “[i]t would have been obvious at the time of the invention, to modify [Figures 1-2 of the present application and the corresponding disclosure], and include alignment means as taught by Ferchau, to prevent unwanted movement.”

However, Ferchau is directed to an alignment and connection method for electrical connections. Ferchau discloses alignment pins 28 configured to mate with apertures 39 formed in the back 34 of a drawer 16 in order to locate and align circuit board 23 and connector plug 24. It is respectfully submitted that Ferchau is non-analogous art, that is, one of ordinary skill in the art of washing machines would not look to the art of cabinetry for electronic systems and subsystems when trying to solve a problem in the washing machine arts. Further, one of ordinary skill in the art of washing machines would not look to a patent directed to locating and aligning circuit boards and connector plugs when attempting to solve a problem in the washing machine arts.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claims 1 and 17 over Figures 1-2 of the present application and the corresponding disclosure, in view of Ferchau is improper and should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 2-11, 13-16, and 18-24 are allowable over Figures 1-2 of the present application and the corresponding disclosure, in view of Ferchau at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 1 and 17, from which they respectively depend, as well as for their added features.

Serial No. **10/720,383**
Amendment dated August 6, 2007
Reply to Office Action of May 9, 2007

Docket No. **K-0566**

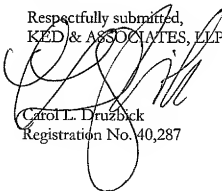
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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